MISSION STATEMENT:
The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

In This Issue

Centennial Corner
Local Government Committee
Climate Change/Sustainability Study and Action Group
At the November Hot Topic
Community Remembrance Project
Naturalization Ceremony
Downtown Market
Centennial Rocks!
Board of Directors

Behind and Beyond the Badge

Our speaker will be award-winning author Donna Brown, speaking about her new book *Behind and Beyond the Badge - Volume 2*. Donna is a retired police sergeant who served 26 years with the Tallahassee Police Department. Donna was one of only five women at TPD when she was hired in 1979. She was promoted to the rank of sergeant and spent ten years as a Detective Sergeant, supervising TPD's Homicide Unit, the first women to hold that position.

While the law enforcement profession has recently received negative media coverage, Donna is passionate about educating the public about the thousands of good, honest, and hardworking law enforcement officers and other first responders who go to work each day to help make their communities safer.

She strongly believes that people need to see behind and beyond the badge to know the person. Her mantra has become, "My books don't have the power to change minds, but perhaps by offering a different perspective, I can open them."

Donna will share many interesting stories from her personal experiences and the people she writes about. Books will be available for sale -- cash or checks only.

Date: Saturday, December 14
Time: 11:30 a.m.--1:00 p.m.
Location: Four Points by Sheraton
316 West Tennessee Street
**President's Message**

As 2019 draws toward a close, I hope you find some time to relax, because 2020 is going to be full of activity. We'll be celebrating the centennial of women's suffrage and the League of Women Voters, and preparing for elections at the local, state, and national levels. Keep an eye out for your newsletter, email updates, and find us on Facebook and Twitter (@LWVTallahassee) and on Instagram (@LWVTLH) for the latest on events.

First up, we will enjoy our annual holiday party and "funraiser" on Saturday, December 14, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. We'll have an interesting speaker, mimosas, and a chance to win the gift you love. Please bring an unwrapped gift that you think your fellow members will enjoy (valued at up to $20) by 10:45 am for our display and bring cash to buy tickets for bidding.

January kicks off our Centennial year with the League of Women Voters participating in the Rose Parade! Check it out on national television New Year's Day. On Saturday, January 18, there will be another nationwide Women's March, and we are awaiting details for a Tallahassee march to participate in, so brush off those marching shoes.

February 4 and 5 the Capitol is the place to be when the state league comes to us for Lobby Days. Go to LWVFL.org for registration information. February 14 is the League's 100th birthday, and a day of action is being planned across the country. Our signature event will be a birthday party at the Capitol on Friday, February 28, 2020, so mark your calendars! We are also planning an exciting entry into the Springtime Tallahassee parade on March 28. There is plenty for you to participate in throughout the year.

Thanks for being a valued member of the League of Women Voters of Tallahassee. I wish you and yours the happiest of holidays.

In League,

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**Menu**

Turkey, Ratatouille, Cauliflower Casserole, and Potatoes

**Cost**

Members - $22  Nonmembers - $25

For reservations please call 309-3005 and leave a message or email LWVTallahassee@gmail.com.

Because the League must pay for reservations cancelled after Wednesday, December 11, those who cancel late must reimburse the League for the cost of their reservations or find someone to take their places at the Hot Topic.
Centennial Corner

Love to make and wear costumes? Dress as your inner self? Well, your chance is coming in the Spring of 2020: First for our LWV Centennial Celebration on February 28 and then on March 28 when the LWV enters the Springtime Tallahassee Parade!

Our parade entry "Women's Vision Through the Years" will demonstrate with marchers and related autos of four eras: The Suffragist Era, The War Years, The ERA/Social Revolution Years, and ending with The Future, which will highlight our current and future goals of making life safer for all, opening the government to all people, and saving our planet!

Start thinking now what era best reflects YOU: We'll be signing up before you know it! And remember the meeting of the Centennial planning team at 6:00 pm at the Main Library Magnolia room on Tuesday, December 10.

Contact Teri Cleeland if you would like to get involved, or come to the meeting.

Save the Date!

February 28, 2020
League of Women Voters Centennial Birthday Celebration
22nd Floor, Florida State Capitol Building
6:30-9:00 pm
Tickets on sale soon!

Your Board of Directors and Centennial team are thrilled to announce a very special event for our League. We will enjoy a glittering evening on the 22nd floor of the Capitol building with catered food, drink, and an inspiring program. Some plan to dress as their favorite suffragist or feminist or you can come in your favorite casual after-five attire.

We will open registration on Eventbrite.com soon, but tickets will be...
available at our holiday party if you prefer to pay by cash or check. Tickets start at $40 per member ($45 for guests), with opportunities for various sponsorship levels. This is a special evening to cheer our accomplishments and dedicate ourselves to a new century of empowering voters. Don't miss it!

Local Government Committee

Danielle Irwin has resigned from the Chairmanship of the Local Government Committee. Christine Coble and Kim Dressel will become Co-chairs of the Committee.

The date of the December meeting has been scheduled for Monday, December 9, 6:00 pm at the LeRoy Collins Library, Room B, with parking at the Call Street entrance. The meeting is open to all members and interested citizens. The agenda will include discussion of the 2020 Candidate Forums. We welcome ideas, suggestions and recommendations from all members.

We look forward to hearing from you and hoping to see you there!

Christine Coble, Co-chair
Local Government Committee
cmcoble1@gmail.com

Climate Change/Sustainability Study and Action Group

At our November Hot Topic we had two outstanding speakers to address the pressing single-use plastic problem that is polluting our world. Activist and environmentalist Holly Parker Curry, representing Surfrider, described all the destructive problems associated with single-use plastics and what we can do about it. Offering an opposing view was Samantha Padgett, who serves as the General Counsel for the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association. A lively discussion ensued with questions from League members.

Some of our members joined a coalition with other environmental groups including a disability organization, to examine the problems associated with single-use plastic and how to address our local officials to help rid our community of this form of pollution. In the late summer, we spoke with the Mayor and every City and County Commissioner, plus the County's sustainability director.

Representing the League, we wrote to the County Commissioners and Sustainability director to offer our help in educating and encouraging the retail industry to voluntarily reduce distribution of single-use plastics before imposing a limitation or ban. This letter, written by Meta Calder and signed by Teri Cleeland is available for you to read. The result of this is that Leon County passed a resolution banning single-use plastic straws and expanded polystyrene products on county grounds. You can email me and I'll send the letter and the resolution to you. (leelindaLWV@gmail.com).
**Environmental Tip:** Now is the time when people mulch in order to help plants survive the winter. We suggest using pine straw, and NOT buy Cyprus mulch or any other imported materials that causes defoliation of mountain-sides in foreign lands.

*Linda Lee, Chair  
Climate Change/Sustainability Study and Action Group*

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**At the November Hot Topic**

We enjoyed an interesting Hot Topic in November exploring plastics--the challenges of micro-plastics in our environment and considerations of regulating them in the hospitality industry. Thanks to the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee for arranging for our speakers Holly Parker Curry, Florida Regional Manager for the Surfrider Foundation, and Samantha H. Padgett, General Counsel for the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association.

Ms. Padgett speaking to the group
Community Remembrance Project

The Tallahassee Community Remembrance Project Steering Committee is pleased to report that the Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery, Alabama, has provided us with approved language for the Community Remembrance narrative marker that we will erect in Tallahassee. This is an extremely important step in our process, and we are grateful to EJI for their feedback and support. We send special thanks to Steering Committee members Dr. Maxine Jones and Rev. Tom Holdcraft for drafting the narrative that was sent to EJI for their review.

For more information on this project, visit their website.

Sandra Kendall

Naturalization Ceremony

Members of the LWVT participated in every Naturalization Ceremony in 2019. We also
provided each new citizen with our brochure with information needed to be educated voters.

US Magistrate Judge Charles A. Stampelos, who has presided over the Naturalization Ceremony for eight years, will retire on April 2, 2020. We wish him the best.

There are six Naturalization Ceremonies each year. If you have never attended one, you should. It is a moving ceremony. I will advertise the dates for 2020 as soon as they are available.

*Sandra Kendall*

Sandra Kendall with Judge Stampelos

**Downtown Market**

We have many wonderful volunteers who staff the Downtown Market. Here are two recent workers: You see Melissa Dembicer in the picture, and behind the camera is her fellow volunteer, Debbie Justice-Obley.
Centennial Rocks!

Do you remember the "Vote" rocks? Well, several Leaguers gathered at Kris Ellington's house to paint Centennial Rocks! They had a ball!
Let's Carpool!

Anyone needing a ride or seeking to drive less, reduce their carbon footprint, or just get to know their fellow League members better can sign up for carpooling to Hot Topics or other League events by sending their name, address, phone number and/or email address to metaorleans@gmail.com. We need sufficient numbers to make this work. Thanks. You would be amazed at how many members practically live next door to each other, but we need your permission to put you together.

Voter Deadline

The next Voter will be the January Voter. The deadline for submission of material is December 27. Please e-mail your material to sbaker@fsu.edu

Membership Form

Name ___________________________ Phone (home) ___________________

Address_________________________ Phone (mobile)___________________
Please Circle Annual Membership Level: 
(May 1-- April 30)

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<tr>
<th>Membership Level</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>E-mail</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Susan B. Anthony household</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
<td>Teri Cleeland, President <a href="mailto:tcleeland@embarqmail.com">tcleeland@embarqmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan B. Anthony individual</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
<td>Sally Butzin, Vice-President Public Education Chair <a href="mailto:sally.butzin@gmail.com">sally.butzin@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household membership</td>
<td>$90.00</td>
<td>Kathy Winn, Secretary Public Health Care Chair <a href="mailto:kathywinnclan@embarqmail.com">kathywinnclan@embarqmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual membership</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
<td>Peggy Ball, Treasurer <a href="mailto:Peggy.Ball@comcast.net">Peggy.Ball@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student membership (Now Free)</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>Liz Holifield (E 2018-20) <a href="mailto:lizholifield@yahoo.com">lizholifield@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
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Optional $5.00 for LWVF Lobby Fund
Additional gift to LWVUS Education Fund

TOTAL: __________

Please make all checks payable to LWV of Tallahassee.
Mail to LWVT, 1400 Village Square Blvd, Suite 3, Box 115, Tallahassee, FL 32312-1231.
You may also renew/join at www.lwvtallahassee.org.

LWVT Board of Directors 2019-2020

(Board members are either elected or appointed. Those elected are so indicated by "E" and their term of office. Appointed members (A) serve one year but may be re-appointed. Officers are elected for one year.)

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